

## SENATOR ROSE ANN ANTICH-CARR



### NEW JOBS on the horizon for Hoosiers

While the country continues to resonate with the effects of the national recession, Indiana has made strong progress in job creation and economic development.

According to the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Indiana's seasonally adjusted payroll in June of 2004 grew by 4,100 jobs. This is the sixth consecutive month Indiana has experienced employment growth in comparison to the same period last year.

And, more jobs are on the horizon. According to IU's Center for Econometric Model Research, Indiana will create about 44,000 new jobs by early next year.

The Indiana Department of Commerce has received 151 inquiries from site selection consultants requesting information about relocating to Indiana. This compares with 140 inquiries for the same period last year, indicating a growing interest in Indiana by companies looking to relocate or expand existing facilities.

- 44,000 -  
Number of new  
Hoosier jobs  
expected by 2005

- 6 -  
Consecutive  
number of months  
of job growth

- \$23 Million -  
Investment by  
American Signature  
in the new LaPorte  
county facility



(Continued on page 4)

Dear Friends,

*The latest statistics indicate that more than 43 million people are uninsured in the United States, and the cost and availability of quality healthcare is a growing concern for every American.*

*Living without health insurance is not just a symptom of unemployment. Working families, small business owners, and temporary employees suffer as well, with 80% of those uninsured living in a family with at least one family member employed full- or part-time.*

*In Indiana, an estimated 687,700 Hoosiers, or nearly 13% of the state's population, are uninsured. Health care costs to Hoosier companies have risen 10% from 2003.*

*I am very concerned that many Hoosiers do not receive the quality healthcare they need and deserve to maintain healthy and productive life styles and families.*

*As the General Assembly prepares for the 2005 legislative session, I encourage you to contact me or a member of my staff by calling toll-free 1-800-382-9467 ext. 2-9532 with any concerns you have regarding the rising cost of healthcare or other issues of importance to you. Together, I believe we can find the solutions to these problems and make a difference.*

*I look forward to hearing from you.*

Sincerely,

#### RESIDENCE

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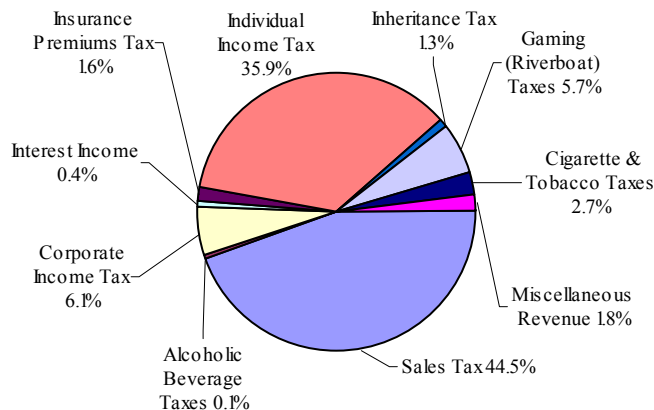
REPRESENTING SENATE DISTRICT 4 INCLUDING CROWN POINT, MERRILLVILLE, HOBART, SCHERERVILLE, ROSS AND ST. JOHN TOWNSHIPS IN LAKE COUNTY, AND JACKSON, LIBERTY, PINE, PORTAGE, UNION, WESTCHESTER AND CENTER TOWNSHIPS IN PORTER COUNTY

# Where state tax dollars go . . .

*My office often receives inquiries about state revenue and appropriations. I've included below a few of the most commonly asked questions. For more information, please contact my office at 1-800-382-9467 ext. 2-9532.*

## 1. How is state government funded?

Below is a summary of the major revenue sources for the State's General Fund and Property Tax Replacement Fund based on the just concluded 2004 Fiscal Year:



## 2. How are local governments and local schools funded?

Local units of government and schools are funded through local property taxes as well as local option income taxes, the Financial Institution Tax, and other various excise taxes. Out of Indiana's total state budget, over 57%, or \$6 billion annually of our tax dollars are returned to local government for education and local tax relief.

## 3. How much does Indiana collect in revenue from the lottery and Riverboat Casinos?

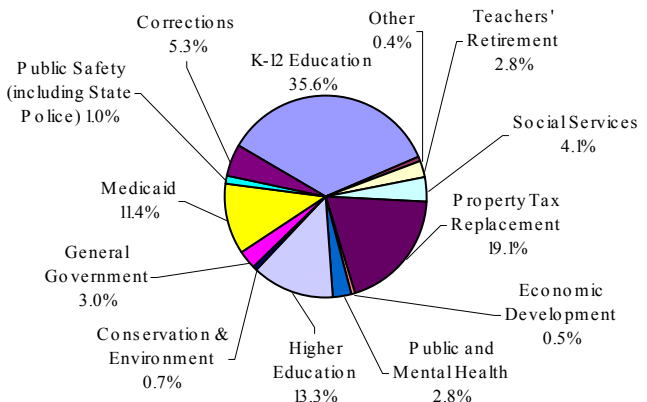
The net revenue from the state lottery has averaged about \$175 million over the past five years. In FY 2004, the state collected approximately \$600 million from taxes on Indiana's ten riverboat casinos.

## 4. How does Indiana allocate revenue from the lottery and riverboat casinos?

• Auto Excise Tax Relief	39.3%
• General Fund	21.6%
• Local/State Grants and Loans	12.9%
• Teacher Pensions-Unfunded Liabilities	7.1%
• Indiana Technology	6.3%
• Police and Firefighter Pensions	5.4%
• Undistributed Balance	5.2%
• Local Road and Street Funds	1.5%
• Job Creation	0.7%

## 5. How does the Indiana State Government spend its money?

Below is a summary of the major operating expenditures of state government based on the FY 2004 budget appropriations:



*Please note: When you read or hear the word "levy" it means a tax.*

# Addressing the rising cost of prescription drugs

*State programs help keep medications available to Hoosiers with low and fixed incomes*

According to a recent study, approximately one out of three Americans under the age of 65 were without health insurance for all or part of 2002 and 2003. Even more Americans live without prescription drug coverage because their health insurance does not include drug coverage from their private or public benefit programs. AARP predicts that the rising trend in pricing will continue to concern and threaten the health of American consumers as these prices outpace inflation, a fact particularly troubling for those on modest and fixed incomes.

## Serving the uninsured

During the past legislative session, I supported the passage of House Enrolled Act 1251 to create a Regional Drug Repository Program. Now underway, this program organizes the collection and redistribution of unused prescription drugs to nonprofit health clinics

serving the uninsured, indigent, or underinsured. Pharmacies, health care clinics, and other facilities serve as repositories, accepting drug donations from health care providers, hospices, and hospitals. The donated prescription drugs are then available at a low or no cost to health

clinic patients under a physician's order. The program will provide a relief in prescription drug costs to state and federal programs that serve low income patients while increasing the availability of prescription drugs to those in need.

***1 out of 3  
Americans under  
65 were without  
health insurance  
in 2003***

## Expanded discounts for Hoosier seniors

HoosierRx is Indiana's Prescription Drug Program for low-income seniors that provides discounts on prescription drugs for eligible seniors. Recent changes to the federal Medicare drug discount program have prompted changes in the state's HoosierRx program.



When using their HoosierRx Drug Card, enrollees will now receive a 75% discount off the cost of prescriptions. The new maximum benefit for current HoosierRx enrollees has been increased from

\$1,000 to \$1,200. New enrollees will also receive 75% off the cost of prescriptions, but maximum benefits will be based on when they apply.

If a senior is already enrolled in the HoosierRx program, it is in their best interest to also sign up for a Medicare-Approved Drug Discount Card because it offers a larger discount. The HoosierRx Card can provide important supplemental assistance to seniors after they reach the maximum benefit of their Medicare-Approved Drug Card.

## ***WANT MORE INFORMATION?***

### **HoosierRx**

1-866-267-4679  
[www.in.gov/HoosierRx](http://www.in.gov/HoosierRx).

### **Medicare**

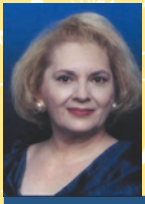
1-800-633-4227  
[www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)

## ***How will Hoosier students pay for college?***

The CollegeChoice 529 Investment Plan is a qualified tuition program that offers an exceptional opportunity to save and invest for the future college expenses of any Indiana child.

Indiana residents can enroll in the age-based investment option by calling 866-400-7526, or logging on to [www.collegechoiceplan.com](http://www.collegechoiceplan.com).

- ⇒ 60% of students have to borrow money to pay for their undergraduate degree
- ⇒ \$15,375 is the average student debt upon graduating from a four-year public university
- ⇒ 43,766 participants were in the CollegeChoice Plan as of May 2004



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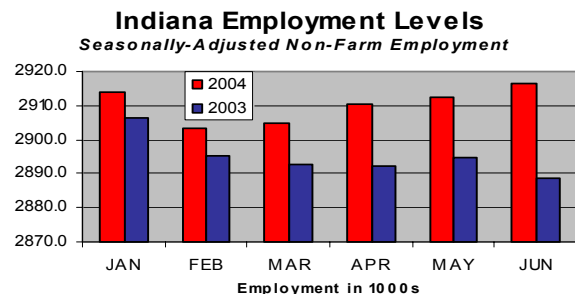
[www.in.gov/s4](http://www.in.gov/s4)

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Recognizing this growth, *Site Selection Magazine* reported in its May 2004 issue that Indiana received the “2003 Competitiveness Award” which is based on ten criteria tracking job and business growth each year. The Hoosier state earned 146 points, while second-place Kentucky earned 114. The award can be partly attributed to the passage of comprehensive tax restructuring legislation in 2002, which eliminated some business and inventory taxes and increased the research and development tax credit from 5 percent to 10 percent.

In 2003, the legislature made unprecedented investments in job creation activities, including a \$75-million investment in Indiana’s 21st Century Research and Technology Fund, the creation of a venture capital tax credit, and funding for certified technology parks. As a result, Indiana has leapt forward with a modern tax structure that attracts new businesses and encourages the expansion of current businesses.

Locally, Feralloy, a steel processing plant, recently announced its plans for a \$2 million expansion of its Ports of Indiana facility located in Portage. The expansion will result in the creation of 50 new jobs by 2007.



Indiana is making progress that is paying off in real jobs for Hoosiers. I will continue to work for the passage of progressive legislation to further Indiana’s economic development efforts.